

40 *THE CASTAWAYS OF THE
FLAG*

Gould and the boatswain could tell from the angle at which the ship heeled to port that she was making good speed. The creaking of the mast steps showed that the first officer was cramming on sail. When the *Flag* arrived in those distant waters of the Pacific Ocean where piracy was practicable, what would become of the prisoners. The mutineers would not be able to keep them; would they maroon them on some desert island ? But anything would be better than to remain on board the ship, in the hands of Robert Borrupt and his accomplices.

A week had passed since Harry Gould and his friends had been shut up on the spar-deck, without a word about the women. But on the *zjth* of September, it seemed as if the speed of the three-master had decreased, either because she was becalmed or because she was hove to.

About eight o'clock in the evening a squad of sailors came down to the captives.

These had no choice, but to obey the order to follow him which the second officer gave them.

What was going on above f Was their liberty about to be restored to them f Or had a party been

, formed against Robert Borupt to
restore Captain

Gould to the command of the *Flag* ?

When they were brought up on to the
deck in

front of all the crew, they saw Borupt
waiting for

*them at the foot of the mainmast-
Fritz and